

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3111
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3282

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, PFOR, RO
SUBJ: TINKER AND DEHANN STAFFDEL VISIT TO ROMANIA, MAY 1-4
REF: STATE 096480

1. SUMMARY. TINKER AND DEHANN STAFFDEL PAID MAY 4 COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT CEEAUSescu, VISITED ZIMNICEA, CRAIOVA AND POLOIESTI, AS WELL AS BUCHAREST, TO ASSESS EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE AND NEED (SEPTel). STAFFDEL ALSO MET WITH DEPFONMIN GLIGA AND DEPMIN OF FOREIGN TRADE MARGARITESCU, AS WELL AS GNA MEMBERS CERTERVFI AND FEJES. STAFFDEL SEEMED PLEASED WITH PROGRAM AND EXPOSURE TO GOR OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. STAFFDEL HAD TWO HOUR MAY 4 SESSION WITH DEPFONMIN GLIGA TO DISCUSS NON-EARTHQUAKE RELATED SUBJECTS. ACCORDNG TO STAFFDEL (AT WHOSE PREFERENCE, NO EMBOFF WAS PRESENT FOR ANY OF MEETINGS, WITH EXCEPTION OF AMBASSADOR'S ACCOMPANYING ON CEAUSescu CALL) GLIGA ANTICIPATED MUCH OF THEIR CONCERN IN FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND BELGRADE. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PRESENCE OF SMALL NUMBER OF /DISSATISFIED" PEOPLE, BOTH AMONG INTELLECTUALS AND RELIGIOUS PERSONALITIES, BUT URGED THAT ISOLATED CASES (ALSO CITING MALCOLM BROWNE INCIDENT IN THIS REGARD) NOT BE SEEN AS IN-
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DICATIVE OF GOR'S GENERAL APPROACH. IF THESE PEOPLE REFUSED TO LEAVE WHEN GIVEN THE CHANCE THEY HAD TO SUFFER CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR DISSATISFACTION. HE URGED THAT CONTINUED ATTEMPTS BE MADE TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING DISAGREEMENTS AND THAT THEY NOT STAND IN WAY OR PROGRESS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. ON EMIGRATION. HE REPEATED STANDARD GOR NEGATIVE POSITION, BUT NOTED PAST AND CONTINUED WILLINGNESS TO SOLVE "GENUINE" FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES. HE URGED STAFFDEL TO BRING ANY PROBLEM CASES TO ATTENTION OF AMBASSADOR NICOLAE IN WASHINGTON. IN THIS REGARD HE ALSO COMPLAINED THAT RFE FREQUENTLY BROADCAST ALLEGED CASES OF PEOPLE DESIRING TO EMIGRATE ABOUT WHICH GOR KNEW NOTHING AND UPON INVESTIGATION PROVED NON-EXISTENT.

4. ON CSCE GLIGA SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT GOR WOULD BE HIGHLY ACTIVE AT BELGRADE AND WOULD HAVE A SERIES OF PROPOSALS TO SUBMIT. DISCUSSIONS AT MINISTRY OF TRADE APPARENTLY EVEINCED SOME CONCERN ON PART OF GOR AS TO CURRENT BILATERAL ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY OVER IMPOUNDING OF SOME 18,000 SUITS BY U.S. AT GNA SESSION ROMANIANS URGED MORE ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF CONGRESSIONAL DEL'S, AND APPARENTLY TOUCHED ON SUBJECT OF GNA DEL TO U.S. THIS YEAR, ALTHOUGH STAFFDEL COULD PROVIDE NO REACTION ON TOPIC.

6. COMMENT: ROMANIAN RESPONSIVENESS ON STAFFDEL PROGRAM, AND IN PARTICULAR THEIR RECEPTION BY CEAUSESCU, (MEETING FEATURED ON FRONT PAGE OF MAY 5 SCINTEIA) IS INDICATIVE OF GOR'S ATTEMPT TO PROJECT IMAGE OF BUSINESS AS USUAL, IN SPITE OF RECENT EVENTS, AS WELL AS DESIRE TO SHOW PUBLIC APPRECIATION FOR KENNEDY (AND U.S.) ROLE IN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF.

BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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